

#29

Revised PTO/SB/30 (02/01)

**REQUEST
for
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

*Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).*

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|------------------------|------------------------|
| Application Number | 09/667,625 |
| Filing Date | September 21, 2000 |
| First Named Inventor | Mitsuaki OSHIMA et al. |
| Group Art Unit | 2634 |
| Examiner Name | Amanda Le |
| Attorney Docket Number | 2000_1307 |
| Confirmation No. | 8400 |

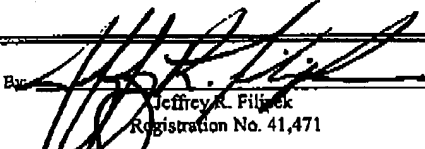
This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.*

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. ☒ Previously submitted:
 - i. ☒ Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on August 1, 2003
 - ii. ☐ Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
 - iii. ☐ Other_
 - b. ☒ Enclosed:
 - i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☒ Other Petition for Extension of Time
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
 - b. ☐ Other_
3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)
 - a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. .
 - i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other_
 - b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$750.00 enclosed

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

CUSTOMER NO.
000513

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September 10, 2003

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975